Case 1:07-cv-05835-WHP Document 18 Filed 03/24 Kingsley, Kingsley of Attorneys at Law Calk DOCUMENT ELECTRONICALLY FILED Proctors in Admiralty DOC#: 91 W. CHERRY STREET HICKSVILLE, NEW YORK 11801 (516) 931-0064 TELEFAX (516) 931-4313 HAROLD M. KINGSLEY JOAN S. KINGSLEY STEVEN P. CALKINS KEVIN T. MURTAGH March 12, 2008 Honorable William H. Pauley, III SO ORDERED: United States District Judge U. S. Courthouse 500 Pearl Street, Ctrm. 11D New York, NY 10007 Re: MAN FERROSTAAL, INC., v. M/V DUBAI JEWEL, et al. 07 CIV 5835 (WHP)(KNF) Our Ref: FS 7865 See individual rule
3(A)(iii) Dear Judge Pauley: We represent the plaintiff in the above maritime cargo damage action, and write to request a pre-motion conference to address the participation in this

lawsuit of an apparently defunct party as well as abuse of the discovery process by defendant SM China Co. Ltd.

We are advised that SM China is a defunct entity with no ability to meaningfully respond to plaintiff's discovery demands, produce a witness, or to pay any eventual judgment or settlement demand. On February 26, 2008, we demanded of Mr. Randolph Donatelli, Esq., of Cichanowicz, Callan, Keane, Vengrow & Terxtor, counsel for SM China, disclosure of SM China's status, and pursuant to Local Civil Rule 26.1, demanded a verified statement of the names, post office addresses and residences of the principal officers of SM China. A copy of our February 26th letter is enclosed with a copy of plaintiff's Notice of Deposition under Rule 30(b)(6) and Request for Documents under Rules 30(b)(5) and 34.

Mr. Donatelli has failed to comply despite our letters dated March 5th, 6th (without enclosures), and March 10th, copies enclosed, insisting inter alia upon disclosure of SM China's status and the Local Civil Rule 26.1 information.

If indeed SM China is out of business and unable to pay any judgment, Mr. Donatelli's persistent aggressive discovery tactics are an astonishing abuse of process.

Abuse of the discovery process by Mr. Donatelli arose when no less than 8 document subpoenas were caused to be issued to various non-party entities, consisting of plaintiff's customers, Joy Pipe in Houston, B& W Pipe in Katy, TX, and McJunkin in Charleston, WV; stevedores in Houston, P&O Ports, stevedores in New Orleans, Pacorini; as well as inland river terminals, CSI in W. Elizabeth, PA, and Pittsburg Intermodal Terminal in Ambridge, PA; and Dufour, Laskay & Strouse in Houston, plaintiff's surveyors.

These subpoenas were issued when defendant SM China had apparently already ceased business and closed its office in Shanghai. All of the relevant information sought in the subpoenas had already been produced by plaintiff and recited in the Dufour, Laskay & Strouse survey reports produced with Plaintiff's Rule 26 Disclosures on November 20, 2007, copy enclosed, without attachments. To add injury to insult, SM China's attorney now demands that plaintiff pay for the cost of copying these voluminous though marginally relevant subpoenaed documents.

Plaintiff submits that the plethora of document subpoenas issued by a defunct entity, SM China, and served around the country was intended simply as harassment to disrupt plaintiff's business relations with these various entities in this relatively modest cargo damage claim to steel pipe in the amount of \$100,000.00. SM China's attorney's abuse of the subpoena powers in a case in which his client cannot or will not respond to plaintiff's demands and is unable to pay a judgment because defunct should not be countenanced by the Court, and plaintiff requests sanctions against SM China and its attorney.

Thank you.

SPC/ Enc.

cc:

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